



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY

(An Autonomous and Statutory Body of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India)

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NBA/Tech.Gen/22/141/14/20-21/2257

Dated 30.09.2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Constitution of a Working Group for developing methodology for assessing Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) potential for effective implementation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 – reg.

The Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 and Guidelines on Access to Biological Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge and Benefit Sharing Regulations, 2014, are designed to ensure that the physical access to biological resources is facilitated and that the benefits obtained from their use are shared equitably with the providers. It is necessary to identify and bring all current users of bioresources within the fold of ABS. As a first step, estimating ABS potential of all States and Union Territories needs to be done to ensure effective conservation of biological resources and livelihood enhancement of the conservers of these resources.

II. It has been decided to constitute a Working Group (WG) to address the methodological issues pertaining to assessment of ABS potential for the country as given below.

1.	Dr. Giridhar Kinhal , Former Director, Indian Institute of Forest Management [Chair of the WG]
Members	
2.	Dr. Goraya G S. , Former PCCF and HoFF, Himachal Pradesh Forest Department
3.	Dr. Manoranjan Bhanja , Former PCCF, Telangana Forest Department
4.	Shri. S.S. Rasaily, IFS , Member Secretary, Uttarakhand State Biodiversity Board
5.	Smt. Meenakshi Negi IFS , Commissioner AYUSH, Government of Karnataka
6.	Dr. Sanjappa M. , Former Director, Botanical Survey of India
7.	Dr. Kavikumar K S , Professor, Madras School of Economics
8.	Dr. Ruchi Pant , Head, NRM & Biodiversity, UNDP or her representative
Member Convener	
9.	Shri. Justin Mohan, IFS , Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority

III. Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Working Group:

- a) Identification and prioritization of plant species which fall within the purview of ABS mechanism under the Biological Diversity Act 2002 and Rules 2004 as well relevant state rules, but not covered under the category of Section 38 (threatened / endangered lists) and Section 40 (normally traded as commodities list).
- b) Development of methodology to assess the volume of trade (existing & potential) in quantitative terms of select species.
- c) Prepare a guideline for the use of ABS funds by the National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards.


IV. Tenure of the Working Group: The tenure of the Working Group is four months from the date of its constitution.

V. Number of Sittings of the Working Group: As required, approximate 6-10 numbers.

VI. Special Invitees: The Chair of WG may co-opt special invitee (s) with prior intimation to Chairperson, NBA.

VII. Logistical Support for the Working Group: Virtual meeting support by NBA/UNDP team and sitting fee as per the NBA norms will be provided to the eligible members of the working group.

The OM is issued with the approval of Competent Authority


(J. Justin Mohan)
Secretary, NBA

To

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7. **Dr.Kavikumar K.S**, Professor, Madras School of Economics,Gandhi Mandapam Road, Behind Anna Centenary Library, Kottur, Chennai – 600 025. Tamilnadu. Phone: 044 - 22300304. E-mail: kavi@mse.ac.in,
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Administrative Officer/Accounts Officer/PS to Secretary/PS to Chairperson, NBA.